

Integrated Fruit and Vegetable Research (\$240,000). I would ban earmarks as we know them, but as long as these earmarks are available, I'm going to apply for them in an effort to pursue federal funding opportunities for my district. For non-defense projects in the current earmarking system, I work closely with local governments, civic organizations, non-profits and business development authorities to identify and prioritize projects important to local communities in Georgia's Eighth Congressional District (and sometimes elsewhere). I only request funds for projects authorized by law for federal funding and do not do so for private parties or entities. This research project will provide vegetable growers in the Southeast with unbiased, research-based information to develop vegetable cultivars resistant to phytophthora capsici and pepper and watermelons resistant to fusarium wilt. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will improve post harvest handling to enhance vegetable shelf life and reduce post harvest losses, thereby reducing the end cost to consumers. Beneficiary: University of Georgia, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, 109 Conner Hall, Athens, GA 30602.